

CDF NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



CONTACT: Karen Terrill
Public Information Officer
916 654-7554

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Labor Day Weekend

Last Recreation Weekend Presents Fire Concerns

Sacramento – The three-day Labor Day weekend is traditionally the last weekend of the season for hiking, camping and other outdoor recreation. Many people will want to cook over a campfire and enjoy the outdoors one last time before returning to school and work. Last year escaped campfires caused 157 wildfires in California. Fortunately firefighters were able to keep most of them from doing serious damage, but each had potential to be a disaster. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) reminds everyone to be extremely careful with fire in our wildlands.

Building a Campfire:

First, make sure that campfires are permitted on the land you are visiting. If campfires are approved use the following safety guidelines:

- Clear an area at least 10 ft. in diameter (local regulations may vary).
- Scoop a depression in the center of the cleared area to build the fire, and surround it with rocks.
- Cut wood in short lengths and light the fire.
- Never leave the fire unattended.
- Make sure the fire is completely extinguished before you leave your campsite.

For more tips on safely enjoying California's wildlands see the CDF website at www.fire.ca.gov

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